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REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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a Second Front in Indochina

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As of mid-October 1951 LIN Piao and CH'EN Keng were disagreeing as to the best ways to deploy Chinese Communist troops. LIN favored sending the best troops of all the field armies to Korea in an attempt to end the war as soon as possible. CH'EN favored sending more regular army troops to South China, especially to the Indochina border area of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, and discontinuing the transfer of regular troops from South China to other areas. CH'EN contended that if the war spreads, the Chinese Communists should be prepared to open a second front against the French in Indochina in cooperation with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Chinese Communist military authorities in Peiping were beginning to support CH'EN's views; as a result TING Hua and troops selected by TENG were being transferred to South China from Korea.¹

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1. Comment.

TING left Peiping on 29 October for Nanning.

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